



# Minutes City of Sacramento Utilities Rate Advisory Commission

Utilities Rate Advisory Commission  
10/26/2011  
Item 1 - Approval of Minutes

## COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Karen McBride	Steven Archibald, Chair	Carolyn Veal-Hunter
Douglas Brown	Steve Harriman	Scott Brown
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## CITY STAFF:

*Jessica Hess, Media and Communication Specialist  
Holly Lera, Senior Staff Assistant  
Joe Robinson, Senior Deputy City Attorney*

*New City Hall  
915 I Street, 1st Floor – Council Chambers*

*March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – 5:30 P.M.*

*The Utility Rate Advisory Commission is a commission of the City Council with review and recommendation authority. Its purpose is to review utility service rate proposals, develop recommendations on relevant issues regarding the setting of rates, hold rate hearings, and act as a liaison to the community to encourage understanding and participation.*

## **NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

You are welcomed and encouraged to participate in this meeting. Public comment is taken (3 minutes maximum) on items listed on the agenda when they are called. Public Comment on items not listed on the agenda will be heard at the end of the meeting as noted on the agenda. Comments on controversial items may be limited and large groups are encouraged to select 3-5 speakers to represent the opinion of the group.

**Notice to Lobbyists:** When addressing the Committee you must identify yourself as a lobbyist and announce the client/business/organization you are representing (City Code 2.15.160).

**Speaker slips are located at the back of the room and should be completed and submitted to the Commission Clerk.**

Government Code 54950 (The Brown Act) requires that a brief description of each item to be transacted or discussed be posted at least 72 hours prior to a regular meeting. The City posts Agendas at City Hall as well as offsite meeting locations. The order of Agenda items are listed for reference and may be taken in any order deemed appropriate by the legislative body. The Agenda provides a general description and staff recommendations; however, the legislative body may take action other than what is recommended. Full staff reports are available for public review on the City's website and include all attachments and exhibits. Hard copies are available at the Utilities Department (10 cents per page). Live video streams and indexed archives of meetings are available via the internet. Visit [http://sacramento.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=21](http://sacramento.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=21).

Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance to participate in the meeting, notify the Utilities Department at (916) 808-8260 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

# MINUTES

**March 9, 2011**

*New City Hall  
915 I Street – First Floor, Council Chambers*

All items listed are heard and acted upon by the Utilities Rate Advisory Commission unless otherwise noted.

## Call to Order – 5:37 p.m.

**Roll Call**     **Present:** Steven Archibald, Douglas Brown, Scott Brown, Carolyn Veal-Hunter (arrived at 5:54pm), Steve Harriman.  
**Absent:** Karen McBride.

## Consent Calendar

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered and acted upon by one motion. Anyone may request an item be removed for separate consideration.

### 1.     **Approval of Minutes for August 25, 2010.**

**Location:** (Citywide)

**Recommendation:** Approve Commission minutes for August 25, 2010.

**Contact:** Holly Lera, Senior Staff Assistant, (916) 808-8131 Department of Utilities.

**Summary:** Clarification that Dr. Lehr abstained from voting at the August meeting, rather than voting against the motion. Motion to approve by Douglas Brown, second by Steven Archibald. All present in favor, none opposed.

**Action:** Minutes approved.

## Discussion / Action Reports

Discussion or action reports include oral presentations including those recommending receive and file.

### 2.     **Commissioner and Staff Introductions - Oral**

**Location:** (Citywide)

**Recommendation:** This information is being presented to introduce new members of the Commission and provide staff introductions.

**Contact:** Jessica Hess, Media and Communication Specialist (916) 808-8260, Department of Utilities.

**Summary:** Commissioners took a few moments to introduce themselves and their background to staff and the commission. Staff present did brief introductions of name and positions to commission.

**Action:** Received and filed.

**6. Efficiency Audit Update (item heard out of order)**

**Location:** (Citywide)

**Recommendation:** Receive and File. This information is to provide the commissioners with an overview and status on the Utilities Efficiency Audit.

**Contact:** Marty Hanneman, Director of Utilities, (916) 808-7508, Department of Utilities.

**Summary:** City Auditor Jorge Oseguera presented a brief history and overview of the efficiency audit currently being done on the Utilities Department. Office of City Auditor functions reviewed. On Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> Council approved outside auditors for participate in the efficiency audit, background of companies hired, and brief description of what the audit will include.

**Action:** Received and filed.

**3. Charter and Responsibilities of Commission - Oral**

**Location:** (Citywide)

**Recommendation:** Receive and File. This is for staff to provide the commission with a review of the commission charter and responsibilities.

**Contact:** Jessica Hess, Media and Communication Specialist (916) 808-8260, Department of Utilities. Joe Robinson, Senior Deputy City Attorney, (916)808-5346, City Attorney's Office.

**Summary:** Joe Robinson presented a review of the Commission charter focusing on the four key powers and duties of the body. Staff let commissioners know that this information can be found in the orientation binder presented to members.

**(Commissioner Veal-Hunter arrived.)**

**Action:** Received and filed.

**4. Budget Status and Review**

**Location:** (Citywide)

**Recommendation:** Receive and file. This information is being presented to provide the commission with review of FY10 End of Year, FY11 Budget Status and FY12 Budget Strategy

**Contact:** Jammie Moens, Business Services Manager (916) 808-5988, Department of Utilities.

**Summary:** Presentation includes rate adjustments FY09/10 and FY10/11, typical single-family utility costs, FY09/10 and FY10/11 budget assumptions, actual and end of year projections (FY10/11), budget development strategy and DOU Fiscal work plan. DOU work plan to include Loose-in-the-street rate/Measure A, Efficiency Audit recommendations, BLT Tiered pricing, Water 101/Fluoride workshops to Council, Drainage Rate structure and revenue requirement study, 4 year rate plan development and development review fees.

Commission question on Meter Program funding, the % allotted to the program each year is compounded, as clarified by staff. Review of ARRA funds received and work completed to date. Discussion of data received regarding water conservation as a result of meter installations, staff review status. Commission clarification regarding solid waste

hauling, BLT agreement to bring waste within region, and changes in solid waste services provided.

**Action:** Received and filed.

## 5. **Utilities Rate Structure Review**

**Location:** (Citywide)

**Recommendation:** Receive and file. This information is being presented to provide the commission with a review of the current Utilities Rate structure.

**Contact:** Jamille Moens, Business Services Manager (916) 808-5988, Department of Utilities.

**Summary:** Rate structure for Water, Sewer, Drainage, and solid waste reviewed for both residential and commercial customers. Commission discussion regarding possibility of metering sewer usage in the future.

**Action:** Received and filed.

### Public Comments- Matters Not on the Agenda

Public Comment heard from Jeff Dunlette and John Deglow.

### Commission Ideas, Questions and Announcements

Commissioner Veal-Hunter proved a brief introduction to the commission.

Commission review and clarification of the frequency of meetings going forward, staff clarified this is a minimum of once per quarter with a maximum of 12 meetings per year.

### Adjournment - 7:58

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the March 9, 2011 meeting as approved by the Utilities Rate Advisory Commission.

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Holly Charley  
Commission Secretary